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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application Of: James P. Stephan

Application Serial No: 10/699,017

Filed: November 3, 2003

For: Air Return Grille   (Amendment A)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

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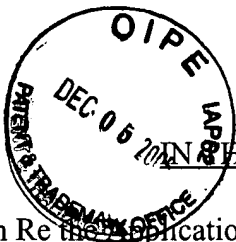

John M. Harrison

Nov 30, 2005
Date

In Re the Application Of

James P. Stephan

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For: Air Return Grille

Minh-Chau Pham

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 1724

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the office action under date of August 2, 2005, the response to which is requested herein to be extended for 30 days to expire on December 2, 2005, the Examiner's rejection of applicant's claims 1-30 is respectfully traversed without amendment, as follows:

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 and 15-24 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over the patent to McConnell, U.S. 4,334,889, taken in view of the patent to Christofferson, U.S. 2,082,481. The Examiner's rejection of claims 1-8 and 15-24 as originally presented, is respectfully traversed as follows:

The Examiner stated that McConnell discloses an air return grille for mounting a filter, which grille includes a frame having a pair of side frame members, a top frame member and a bottom frame member and multiple, inwardly-facing, spaced-apart slat seats for receiving corresponding slats. The Examiner further noted that McConnell discloses slat seats disposed at a selected angle with respect to the longitudinal axis and also noted that McConnell does not

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